

# UNDERGRADUATE FISHERIES AND OCEAN SCIENCES PROGRAM



University of Alaska Fairbanks



photo by Erika Acuna

## UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

The UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences offers two undergraduate fisheries and ocean sciences degrees:

**B.S. in Fisheries and Ocean Sciences** — a rigorous scientific program for students interested in research, conservation, and management of fish and shellfish and their freshwater and marine environments. Two concentrations are available:

- Fisheries Science
- Ocean Sciences

**B.A. in Fisheries** — the only degree program of its kind in North America, providing students with a broad background in fisheries business, administration, policy, and rural and community development. Offered since 2009. Two concentrations are available:

- Business, Policy and Administration
- Rural and Community Development

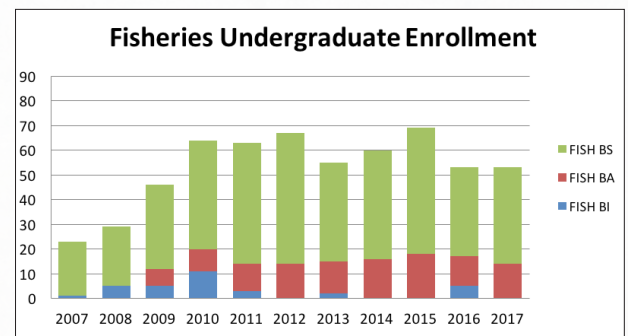
## OVERALL APPROACH

Both the B.S. and B.A. require 120 credits, allowing students to complete their degrees within four years.

- Low student-to-faculty ratios translate to small class sizes and individual attention from world-class faculty in locations such as Fairbanks, Juneau, Kodiak, and Anchorage.
- Classes range from introductory fisheries and seafood sciences to fish ecology to human dimensions and fisheries management.

## PROGRAM SUCCESSES

- The Undergraduate Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Program has the **highest retention rate** of any undergraduate program at UAF (80% vs. 40–60% for other programs).
- The number of undergraduates majoring in fisheries and ocean sciences **has tripled** over the past 10 years—from 23 in 2006 to 69 in 2015—making it **one of the largest undergraduate fisheries and ocean sciences programs in the country**.
- In fall 2016, there were 12 B.A. and 41 B.S. fisheries and ocean sciences majors.



**UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences**  
2150 Koyukuk Drive, 245 O'Neill Building  
PO Box 757220 | Fairbanks, AK 99775-7220  
(907) 474-7824 | [www.uaf.edu/cfos](http://www.uaf.edu/cfos)

The UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences thanks the Rasmuson Foundation and the University of Alaska Fairbanks, whose generous financial support and commitment have helped make this outstanding Undergraduate Fisheries Program possible.



photo by Peter Westley

CFOS is the most geographically diverse school in the University of Alaska system. From Nome to Ketchikan and Fairbanks to Unalaska, we have over 50 faculty at 12 locations across the state.



photo by Sharece Walker

## STATEWIDE ORIENTATION

- The Undergraduate Fisheries Program serves students from across the state—in fall 2015, students came from 20 different Alaska communities.
- Since 2012, about 37 percent of students are Alaska Native or from rural areas.
- The undergraduate program is “location-flexible”—students have options to study at other University of Alaska locations, including rural campuses, for a portion of their degree studies.
- The B.A. in Fisheries with the Rural and Community Development concentration can be completed from anywhere in the state.
- While most students complete most or all of their degree requirements at UAF, advisors can assist with customizing a program that can be completed at UAS or UAA.

## EMPLOYMENT OF GRADUATES

- Students who complete the B.S. in Fisheries and Ocean Sciences with a Fisheries Science concentration are highly marketable, as they meet the educational requirements for professional certification with the American Fisheries Society.
- Since 2007 there have been 77 graduates (61 B.S., 16 B.A.). After graduation, 30 got jobs at state or federal agencies (e.g., ADF&G, USFWS), 8 were employed at UAF, 4 in industry, and 15 went on to graduate school.



photo courtesy of Stacy Vespa

## PROGRAM FEATURES

- The Undergraduate Fisheries and Ocean Sciences program emphasizes hands-on learning, both in the laboratory (e.g., ichthyology, biology, chemistry) and in the field (e.g., freshwater fisheries techniques, field methods in marine ecology and fisheries, marine biology and ecology field course).
- All undergraduate fisheries and ocean sciences majors complete an internship as part of their degree program, most with state or federal agencies such as ADF&G, NOAA, and USFWS, as well as opportunities outside Alaska.
- Students can also gain real-world, hands-on experience through independent studies and a senior thesis.

**UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences**  
2150 Koyukuk Drive, 245 O’Neill Building  
PO Box 757220 | Fairbanks, AK 99775-7220  
(907) 474-7824 | [www.uaf.edu/cfos](http://www.uaf.edu/cfos)